

Nonresident Vehicles

7.000 Introduction

Any vehicle, including a vehicle registered to a nonresident owner, that is based in California or primarily used on California highways **must** be registered in California.

A vehicle is considered to be primarily or regularly used on California highways if it is located or operated in this state for a greater amount of time than it is located or operated in any other individual state during the registration period. (VC §4000.4)

When California registration is required of a vehicle last registered in a foreign jurisdiction, the application for original registration **must** be made to the department within 20 days following the date registration became due to avoid penalties. (VC §4152.5)

EXCEPTION: California dealers have 30 days from the date of sale on the Report of Sale–Used Vehicle (REG 51) to submit fees without penalty. (VC §9553c,1)

Nonresident vehicle owners **must** register their vehicles in California within 20 days of the date they accept gainful employment **or** become a California resident. A person working for wages or operating a business **is** gainfully employed. Military personnel **are not** considered to be gainfully employed in California even when they hold a civilian job as well.

7.005 Definitions

Nonresident—A person who **is not** a resident of California. (VC §435) For example, visitors or representatives of another state or country and military personnel who are residents of other states.

Nonresident Vehicle—A vehicle that was last registered in another state **or** country.

Nonresident Military Personnel—Any nonresident owner of a vehicle registered in a foreign state who is a member **or spouse** of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty within this state. (VC §6701) Any person on continuous active duty in the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, or Coast Guard **is** considered to be military personnel. This **does not** include civilian personnel employed by a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.

7.005 Definitions, continued

Nonresident Student—A nonresident student is a student who is **under** 23 years of age, is a dependent, pays nonresident tuition, and is unemployed.

EXCEPTION: A student may be employed in a position required as part of the student's educational field when the student's earnings are directed toward his or her education rather than being taken as an income. **For example,** a communications major working in a radio station or a medical student working in a hospital or laboratory.

Nonresident Student Exemption from Registration—A nonresident student operating a nonresident vehicle that displays valid registration/plates in the student's home state is exempt from California registration. The nonresident student may possess a California driver license or operate on a valid driver license from his/her state. If the nonresident student applies for California registration, all requirements for California registration are applicable.

Nonresident students 23 years of age and older **are not** exempt from California registration requirements, and any vehicle operated by the student must be registered in California and all California emission and registration requirements must be satisfied.

California Resident (VC §516)—A resident is any person who manifests an intent to live or be located in this state on more than a temporary or transient basis. Presence in California for six months or more in any 12-month period gives rise to a rebuttable presumption of residency. The following are evidence of residency for purposes of vehicle registration:

- Address where registered to vote.
- Location of employment or place of business.
- Payment of resident tuition at a public institution of higher education.
- Attendance of dependents at a primary or secondary school.
- Filing of a homeowner's property tax exemption.
- Renting or leasing a home for use as a residence.
- Declaration of residency to obtain a license or any other privilege or benefit not ordinarily extended to a nonresident.
- Possession of a California driver license.

EXCEPTION: A nonresident student.

- Other acts, occurrences, or events that indicate presence in the state is more than temporary or transient.

7.010 Nonresident Vehicle Change of Ownership

California registration fees are due immediately upon transfer of a nonresident vehicle from the nonresident owner on the registration documents and must be paid within 20 days after the new owner's date of purchase **or** 30 days from the Report of Sale–Used Vehicle (REG 51) date, if sold by a California dealer. (VC §9553c,1)

Deceased Nonresident Owner—The surviving owner of a nonresident vehicle registered as “Joint Tenants with Right of Survivorship” may obtain California registration in his/her name by submitting a death certificate for the deceased owner with the regular nonresident clearance requirements.

A transfer without probate **cannot** be processed for any vehicle titled in another state. The vehicle must be transferred to the heir's in the other state before California registration can be obtained.

7.015 Date Fees Become Due on a Nonresident Vehicle

Dealer Inventory Vehicles—California registration fees for a nonresident vehicle acquired by a dealer (with or without current registration) become due on the date of sale to a retail buyer. The dealer has 30 days from the date of sale on the Report of Sale–Used Vehicle (REG 51) to submit the fees to the department. (VC §9553c,1)

Other Nonresident Vehicles—Use the following chart to determine when California registration fees become due.

<i>If the nonresident vehicle is...</i>	<i>then California fees become due on...</i>
brought into California by the owner named on the nonresident registration documents and will be registered in that owner's name EXCEPTION: Commercial vehicles (see below)	the date of entry into California, if the vehicle is not currently registered. whichever occurs first, if the vehicle is currently registered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the date the owner establishes residency or accepts gainful employment in California or the date the out-of-state registration expires
purchased in California	the date of purchase.
purchased outside California	the date of entry.
a commercial vehicle	
operated by a nonresident student 23 years old or older	
owned by an active military member and not currently registered in his/her home state or last duty station state	
owned by an active military member and is currently registered in his/her home state or last duty station state	the date following expiration of the out-of-state registration.

7.020 Use of Nonresident License Plates by a Resident Business (VC §6702)

Every nonresident, including any foreign corporation, having an established place of business within California, and regularly using a vehicle of a type subject to registration, **must** immediately register the vehicle upon entry into this state.

7.025 Nonresident Privileges

The following applies to operation of nonresident vehicles in California:

- The nonresident owner (other than a commercial vehicle) may operate a vehicle in California that is registered and displays valid license plates issued to that owner by the foreign jurisdiction where he/she was a resident until he/she accepts gainful employment in this state **or** establishes residency in this state, whichever occurs first.
- A nonresident owner of a vehicle may operate, or permit operation of, a vehicle in California without obtaining California registration if the vehicle is registered in the owner's place of residence **and** displays valid license plates issued by that state.

IMPORTANT: This exemption **does not** apply if the nonresident owner rents, leases, lends, or otherwise furnishes the vehicle to a California resident for regular use on California highways.

- Any vehicle owned by a nonresident and furnished to a California resident for his or her regular use within this state **must be** registered in California within 20 days after first operation of the vehicle within this state by the resident. (VC §4000.4)
- If the nonresident registration **does not** indicate an expiration date, it will be considered to expire one year from the date of first use of the vehicle in California. Fees are due immediately if the owner accepts gainful employment in, or establishes residency in California. The fees **must be** paid within 20 days. (VC §4152.5)

7.030 Military Personnel (VC §6701)

Military personnel, including California residents, who are members or the spouse of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces returning from active duty in a foreign state **and** both military and civilian members of NATO who are not citizens of the United States are permitted to operate a vehicle in California with valid license plates from either:

- the individual's home state or country **or**
- the state or country where the individual was regularly assigned and stationed when the license plates were issued.

NOTE: For this purpose, Maryland or Virginia will be considered the state where stationed for military personnel assigned and stationed in Washington, D.C.

7.030 Military Personnel, continued

The requirements are:

- The vehicle **must** display valid license plates issued by a foreign jurisdiction.
- The registration and plates **must** be issued to the military person or his/her spouse.
- The vehicle registration and license plates **must** have been issued by the foreign jurisdiction where the military person was last regularly assigned and stationed for duty by military orders **or** by a jurisdiction claimed as the permanent state of residence by the nonresident military person.

NOTE: Military orders **do not** include military orders for leave, for temporary duty, or for any other assignment of any nature requiring the military person's presence outside the foreign jurisdiction where the owner was regularly assigned and stationed for duty.

- If the vehicle is a motor vehicle, the owner or driver has in force one of the forms of financial responsibility specified in VC §16021.

NOTE: This section applies to all vehicles, including trailer coaches, owned by the military person or spouse **except** any commercial vehicle used in any business manner wherein the military person or spouse receives compensation.

Officers of the Public Health Service are entitled to all rights, privileges, immunities, and benefits provided under the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act of 1940. They **do not** have to be on duty with the Armed Forces.

7.035 Discharged Military Personnel (VC §6703)

Any person who enters California after being discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces is exempt from California registration for passenger vehicles, trailer coaches, and utility trailers provided the vehicle has valid out-of-state plates **and** registration.

Registration fees become due when the person accepts gainful employment in California or becomes a California resident and **must be** paid within 20 days following that date to avoid penalties. (VC §4152.5)

7.040 Commercial Vehicles Owned by Military Personnel (VC §6701)

Military personnel may operate a commercial vehicle owned by the military person without obtaining California registration for the vehicle provided it bears valid registration in the owner's home state or the state of military assignment at the time of registration, and it **is not** used in a trade or business.

EXCEPTION: Any commercial vehicle owned by military personnel used in any business manner wherein the military person receives compensation **is** subject to California registration. (VC §6701[c])

7.045 Signature by Relative of Military Personnel (VC §1651)

An application for California registration may be signed by the spouse or other close relative without a power of attorney when the owner of the nonresident vehicle being registered is in the Armed Forces.

In such cases, the individual's signature **must be** countersigned by the relative **and** the relationship to the individual **must be** indicated. The application should be marked "Owner Member of Armed Forces."

7.050 Nonresident Military and NATO Members Exemption (50 United States Code §574)

Nonresident military (NRM) members of the U.S. Armed Forces **stationed in California** are exempt from payment of the vehicle license fee (VLF) on any vehicle or trailer coach owned or leased by the NRM person and registered in California, **provided:**

- The NRM owner **is** shown as a lessee or a registered owner of the vehicle.
- The duty station is located in California.
- The vehicle **is not** operated "for hire."

In addition to the usual registration requirements, a Nonresident Military Exemption Statement (REG 5045) completed by the NRM owner/lessee must be submitted with the application to receive the VLF exemption.

NOTE: A 1/2003 revision of the Miscellaneous Statement of Facts, Nonresident Military Exemption Statement (REG 256–Section G), which contains the same certification information as the new REG 5045 is also acceptable.

NATO Members—A member of a force or civilian component of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) who is not a citizen of the United States is also entitled to the VLF exemption privilege. To receive the exemption, a North Atlantic Treaty Organization Status of Forces Agreement (REG 5046) completed by the applicant must be submitted with the application.

NATO has 18 members as listed below.

Belgium	Italy
Canada	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Netherlands
Denmark	Norway
France	Poland
Germany	Portugal
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Turkey
Iceland	United Kingdom

7.055 Nonresident Reciprocity

Nonresident Home State Entitles Owner to “Period of Grace”—The nonresident owner may renew the vehicle registration in his/her residence state and also may operate the vehicle in California during the grace period provided by the residence state without the vehicle becoming subject to California registration.

If the vehicle becomes subject to registration during the grace period (for example, the owner accepts gainful employment or becomes a resident) **or** the owner decides to obtain California registration, fees **are due** from the statutory expiration date and **must be** paid within 20 days to avoid penalties. (VC §4152.5)

Nonresident Home State Does Not Have a “Period of Grace”—In this case, the vehicle is subject to registration immediately upon first operation after the statutory expiration date unless the owner has evidence of renewal in his/her residence state made either before the statutory expiration date or before first operation in California after the statutory expiration date.

The registration fees must be paid within 20 days of the expiration date of the nonresident registration to avoid penalties. (VC §4152.5)

7.060 Leased Vehicles (VC §6853)

A vehicle leased from a nonresident owner by a person residing in, or having an established place of business in California for use on California highways **must be** registered in California unless it is specifically exempted from registration here under VC §6850. Fees are due from the date of first use in California.

7.065 Nonresident Commercial Vehicles (VC §6852)

Reciprocity Granted—The nonresident owner of a foreign commercial vehicle is granted the same privileges and freedom from registration and payment of fees imposed by the *California Vehicle Code* (VC) as the foreign jurisdiction in which the vehicle is registered/licensed grants to like vehicles registered under this code or as provided in reciprocity agreements, arrangements, or declarations made commencing with VC §8000. Reciprocity between California and other states is based upon:

- Agreements and arrangements completed between the Reciprocity Commission or the International Registration Plan Agreement and authorized representatives of other states.
- Declarations by the Reciprocity Commission.

7.065 Nonresident Commercial Vehicles, continued

The conditions of reciprocity are indicated in the following chart.

<i>If the nonresident vehicle is a...</i>	<i>then the vehicle...</i>
commercial vehicle from a state which does not have INTERSTATE reciprocity	is subject to fees from the date of entry.
commercial vehicle that operates INTRASTATE	is subject to registration in California. EXCEPTION: Vehicles base-plated in Hawaii.
commercial vehicle from a state with which California has INTERSTATE reciprocity	may enter California and be parked without fees becoming due. Any subsequent INTRASTATE operation causes fees to be due immediately. EXCEPTION: Vehicles base-plated in Hawaii.
commercial vehicle registered as an automobile in the owner's home state	is treated as an automobile for the purpose of determining when registration is required.
recreational vehicle	is treated as an automobile for the purpose of determining when registration is required even if the vehicle is registered as a commercial vehicle in the home state.
station wagon	is treated as a noncommercial vehicle for the purpose of determining when registration is required even if the vehicle is registered as a commercial vehicle in the home state.
commercial vehicle base-plated in Mexico or Newfoundland NOTE: Mexico and Newfoundland do not have reciprocity agreements with California.	must be registered for the full year. (VC §9711) Interstate registration may be obtained in conjunction with full-year registration.

7.070 Return of Foreign State License Plates (VC §4302)

The license plates assigned to a vehicle in or outside of the United States **must** remain attached to the vehicle while it is operated or held for sale in this state.

If the vehicle owner requests return of the plates to the issuing state, a completed Application for Return of Non-Resident Plates (REG 356) and the return of nonresident plates fee must be submitted with the California registration application.

7.075 Evidence of Ownership for Nonresident Vehicles (VC §4307)

The documents presented to the department **must** establish the **complete** chain of ownership and the correct legal owner, if any, for the nonresident vehicle.

Generally, all states issue a title to most motor vehicles. Some states **do not** issue titles for non-motorized vehicles, such as trailers. Also, in the past, some states did not issue titles to certain older model motor vehicles and trailers. Dealers may contact a local DMV office to verify whether or not a title would have been issued for a vehicle, because of its age or type.

NOTE: Connecticut does not require issuance of a Connecticut title on vehicles manufactured prior to 1981. Ownership may be transferred using a Connecticut Supplemental Assignment of Ownership form (CT DMV form Q-1).

Vehicles from a Title State—Evidence of ownership **must be** the title, properly endorsed by the owner/seller. A bill of sale **is acceptable** in lieu of the seller's signature on the title. The title must show "no lienholder" **or** include the lienholder's release. A lien satisfied is acceptable in lieu of the lienholder's release on the title.

NOTE: A lien release is **not** required when the lienholder and the reposessor are the same for:

- a Florida title submitted with a Florida Repossession Certificate.
- a Georgia title is submitted with a Georgia Repossession Certificate.
- a Texas title submitted with a Texas Repossession Affidavit.

Foreign Country Title Documents—Use the foreign title document to register a vehicle previously registered in a foreign country.

Nontitle State—The following are acceptable as evidence of ownership when a title **was not** issued by the jurisdiction where the vehicle was last registered.

- A clear title from another state or country.
- A letter from the nontitle state indicating that a foreign title was surrendered to that state (**unless** the registration indicates a title was surrendered).
- A bill of sale or dealer invoice to the registered owner named on the nonresident registration which identifies the vehicle by make and identification number, states the vehicle is/was free of all liens and encumbrances when sold to the buyer, **and** indicates the vehicle was paid for in full.

NOTE: A lien shown with the notation "paid" and the lienholder's name and a countersignature is sufficient evidence that the lien **is** satisfied.

- The original or certified copy of a conditional sales contract marked "paid" with the lienholder's name and a countersignature **or** cleared by a lien satisfied. An original or certified copy of a nonresident dealer invoice that describes the vehicle by make and identification number, shows the dealer's name/address in the invoice letterhead, gives the buyer's name(s), and is marked "paid" and countersigned by the dealer may be substituted for the conditional sales contract.

7.080 Registration Requirements for Nonresident Vehicles

The basic registration requirements for all nonresident vehicles are listed below.

- A completed Application for Title or Registration (REG 343).
 - The name/address for an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Lienholder **must be exactly** as shown in the latest ELT listing issued by the department. New listings are issued quarterly with a Vehicle Industry News (VIN) memo.
 - The driver license or identification card number (DL/ID#) for **each** buyer/owner (or lessee, if an individual) must appear. Show the buyer's/owner's out-of-state DL/ID# if he/she has not been issued a California DL/ID# and print the state of issuance in the front upper right corner of the REG 343.
 - The length and width for a motorhome **must be** shown on the REG 343 **or** on a Statement of Facts REG 256 submitted with the application.
- A vehicle verification. (Dealers should have this done prior to retail sale.)

New Commercial Vehicles Exception: A vehicle verification **is not** required for a new commercial vehicle purchased in another state as a complete vehicle or as an incomplete vehicle to which a new body has been added to make a complete vehicle. The requirements for the exception are:

- The vehicle has never been registered or issued International Registration Plan (IRP) registration in California or was issued IRP registration only within the last 60 days.
- The vehicle has not been assembled, modified, or altered from a kit.
- The vehicle has an unladen weight of 6,001 pounds or more.
- The vehicle meets California emission standards.
- A *secured* Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO) is submitted for the (complete) vehicle. A bill of sale, invoice, or sales slip cannot be used in lieu of a *secured* MCO/MSO.

The application **must** include a Statement of Facts (REG 256) certifying no alterations, adjustments, or modifications were made to the vehicle's emissions control system **and** the vehicle **has** an emission label properly affixed in the engine compartment which indicates the vehicle meets U.S. and California emission standards **or** the MCO/MSO specifically states the vehicle meets California emission standards.

A vehicle verification **is required** for a vehicle that **does not** meet California emission standards.

- Evidence of ownership, as described in Section 7.040.
- Any bills of sale needed to establish a complete chain of ownership.
- The Report of Sale–Used Vehicle (REG 51).

7.080 Registration Requirements for Nonresident Vehicles, continued

- A weight certificate, if a commercial vehicle. Refer to Section 9.025 for **Weight Certificate Exceptions**.

NOTE: Weight certificates from Oregon, Nevada or Arizona are acceptable when the closest weigh station is in one of these states.

- A smog certification, if appropriate.
- Odometer mileage disclosure, if appropriate.
- Fees.

Vehicles Registered to Nonresident Military (NRM) Personnel—The vehicle license fee (VLF) portion of the fees **is not** due for a vehicle registered to a nonresident military (NRM) person **assigned to a California** duty station. Refer to Section 7.050 for additional requirements.

7.085 “Title Only” for a Nonresident Vehicle

A “title only” may be issued for a nonresident vehicle that has not been, and will not be, driven, moved, or operated in a manner so as to cause fees to become due without payment of the required fees.

Exclusions—A “title only” **cannot** be issued to:

- A trailer coach. Trailer coaches **must** be registered at all times. (VC 5352)
- A vehicle for which registration fees are due.
- An incomplete or junked vehicle. A “title only” can be issued to a revived junk only after **all** of the clearance requirements are met.
- A vehicle **not** located in California. (VC §4151)

Application Requirements—Submit the following:

- An Application for Title or Registration (REG 343) completed as usual. The cost of the vehicle **must be** shown.
- A vehicle verification.
- Evidence of ownership. Refer to Section 7.040 for information.
- A Statement of Facts (REG 256) requesting “title only” completed by the buyer.
- A Certificate of Planned Non-Operation (PNO–REG 102) completed by the buyer.
- The Report of Sale–Used Vehicle (REG 51).
- Odometer mileage disclosure, if appropriate.
- A weight certificate for a commercial vehicle.
- The “title only” fee and the PNO filing fee. Refer to the Fees appendix, Appendix 1F, for fee amounts.

NOTE: The appropriate evidence of emission and safety compliance is required for issuance of “title only” on a direct import vehicle.

7.090 Nonresident Vehicle Rollbacks

The Used Vehicle Report of Sale (REG 51) **cannot** be voided if the buyer returns the vehicle after operating it, even if it is returned before the registration application is completed.

All fees are due within **30 days** of the date of sale shown on the REG 51 to avoid any late penalty or ASF fees. The fees due may be posted in the dealer's name or the first buyer's name.

When the vehicle is sold to a second buyer or registered to the dealer, submit a Statement of Facts (REG 256) with the nonresident application which includes:

- The name of the buyer who returned the vehicle **and** the date returned.
- The reason the vehicle was returned (for example, credit unavailable) **and** if it was returned voluntarily by the buyer.
- How the vehicle was sold (under conditional contract, chattel mortgage, etc.).
- If a trade-in was returned to the buyer.
- If a down payment was returned **and** whether it was a cash down payment or cash in addition to a trade-in.

NOTE: A transfer fee **is not** due. If the first buyer paid VLF and the second buyer is a nonresident military (NRM), the VLF paid earlier **is due**.

7.095 Registration of a Vehicle Located Out of State to a California Resident

A California resident who is located out of state may register his/her vehicle in California. In addition to the usual nonresident registration requirements listed in Section 7.080, the application **must** include:

- A vehicle verification (REG 343) completed by a regularly employed peace officer from the state in which the vehicle is located. The odometer mileage **must be** recorded on the verification.

NOTE: Any authorized vehicle verifier, including a peace officer, can complete the Emission Label verification.

- For commercial vehicles, a weighmaster's weight certification is required. The certification must contain:
 - The vehicle identification number (VIN).
 - The unladen weight of the vehicle.
 - The name, address, and signature of the person certifying to the unladen weight of the vehicle.
- A Statement of Facts (REG 256) from the owner certifying he/she is a bona fide resident of California which includes his/her California address.

7.095 Registration of a Vehicle Located Out of State to a California Resident, continued

- A Statement of Facts—New, Nonresident, or Imported Vehicle (REG 256F) completed by the owner stating the vehicle is equipped to meet California emission control standards, or will be properly equipped when the vehicle enters California.

NOTE: 49-state vehicles and motorcycles with less than 7,500 odometer miles **cannot** be registered in California unless they are California-certified vehicles.

- The fees due based on the date the registration application is presented.

7.100 Nontitle (Goldenrod) Registration (VC §4307)

The department may issue a nontransferable nontitle (goldenrod) registration when out-of-state titling documents **are not** submitted at the time of application for California registration. The goldenrod registration **must be** issued in the name of the registered owner (consistent with the requirement for true name) shown on the nonresident registration card **or** in the records of a nonresident registration jurisdiction.

The name of the legal owner/lienholder should be entered on the Application for Title or Registration (REG 343), even if it does not appear on the nonresident registration.

When a goldenrod registration is issued, ownership of the vehicle **cannot** be changed until the nonresident title or evidence of ownership is presented to the department for issuance of a California Certificate of Title.

Change of Name on a Nontitle Registration—A goldenrod registration application **must** reflect the owner's name as it appears on the nonresident registration card. A Name Statement (REG 256) completed by the owner must be submitted to the department to have his/her name changed on a goldenrod registration. In order to provide unquestionable continuity of ownership when the outstanding title is presented, the department will issue a new goldenrod registration which contains both the new and former name of the owner. **For example:** "Mary Jones AKA Mary Smith"

Name of Registered Owner(s) Remains the Same—To convert a nontitle (goldenrod) registration to a regular California registration when the name of the owner on the nontitle registration **is not** changing, the requirements are:

- The last-issued California goldenrod registration if available.
- The last-issued title (California or nonresident) and any supporting documents that may be necessary, such as a power of attorney, lien satisfied, or bill(s) of sale.
- A smog certification, if appropriate.
- Any fees due.

7.105 Conversion of Nontitle to Normal Registration

Transfer of Ownership—When a transfer of ownership occurs in conjunction with conversion of a goldenrod registration to regular California registration, include these items in addition to the previously listed requirements:

- The California or nonresident title properly endorsed for transfer **or** bill(s) of sale, as necessary, to establish the chain of ownership from the owner of record to the new owner/applicant **must** be submitted. (If the title is not available or it is a nonresident title without a place for the applicant to sign as the new owner, an Application for Title or Registration (REG 343) is necessary as the top document of the application supported by bill(s) of sale, as necessary.)
- If a legal owner is shown on the title, that legal owner **must** release on the title or a lien satisfied statement is required. The department's Lien Satisfied (REG 166) may be utilized. If there is a change in legal ownership, the new legal owner/lienholder name and address **must** be entered on the title.
- A smog certification, if appropriate.
- A transfer fee and any other fees due.

NOTE: A transfer fee **is not** due when a title from the State of Washington is presented for a goldenrod conversion, because Washington issues a clear title to the registered owner when the lien is satisfied.

7.110 Vehicle Issued Nonresident “Title Only”—Not Currently Registered

The registration requirements for a vehicle issued “Title Only” in another state, but **not** registered there, are the same as for registration of any other nonresident vehicle. Refer to Section 7.080.

7.115 Vehicles with California Registration and Nonresident “Title Only”

Some states (Oregon, for example) issue “Title Only” for a vehicle registered in California to record a lien on the vehicle held by a resident of that state. To obtain a California title, the nonresident “title only” and a Statement of Facts (REG 256) completed by the owner stating there are no liens against the vehicle other than shown on the accompanying documents must be submitted to the department.

7.120 Nonresident Vehicle Previously Registered in California

The requirements to register a nonresident vehicle previously registered in California within the department's four-year file retention period are:

- The registration requirements listed in Section 7.080.
- Evidence of ownership as follows:

Vehicle Registered in a Title-Issuing State—The Certificate of Title from that state **or** the California Certificate of Title **and** the nonresident registration indicating a title was not issued or a letter from the nonresident registration jurisdiction verifying that state did not issue a title.

NOTE: A nontransferable (goldenrod) registration may be issued when there is an outstanding California Certificate of Title. An Application for Duplicate Title (REG 227) **cannot** be accepted unless the application contains evidence of prior California registration **and** that a nonresident title **was not** issued for the vehicle.

Vehicle Registered in a Nontitle State—The California Certificate of Title **or** a bill of sale to the person shown on the nonresident registration **and** the nonresident registration indicating a title was not issued or a letter from the nonresident registration jurisdiction verifying the California Certificate of Title was picked up by that state.

- A vehicle verification.
- A smog certification, if appropriate.
- A weight certificate for commercial vehicles. If there have been no alterations/changes made to the vehicle, the owner may complete a Statement of Facts (REG 256) certifying to that fact in lieu of a weight certificate.
- Any previously issued California license plates retained by the owner must be surrendered.
- Fees as follows:

Vehicle Previously Registered in the Same Registration Year—Only the Nonresident Reregistration Fee is due. The previously assigned registration expiration date is kept.

Vehicle Registered in a Prior Registration Year—All appropriate fees are due.

NOTE: If ownership of the vehicle is being transferred to a new owner, the Certificate of Title or an Application for Duplicate Title (REG 227) **must be** properly endorsed for transfer. Transfers are also acceptable on out-of-state titles or with bills of sale. A transfer fee **is not** due.

7.125 Nonresident Vehicle Repossessed in California

The registration requirements for a currently-registered nonresident vehicle repossessed in California are:

- The registration requirements as indicated in Section 7.080.
- A Certificate of Repossession (REG 119).

NOTE: A lien release is **not** required when the lienholder and the reposessor are the same for:

- a Florida title submitted with a Florida Repossession Certificate.
 - a Georgia title is submitted with a Georgia Repossession Certificate.
 - a Texas title submitted with a Texas Repossession Affidavit.
- Evidence of the lienholder's right to repossess the vehicle. Evidence may be being shown as the lienholder on the title **or** a certified copy of the Conditional Sales Contract or chattel mortgage submitted with the application.
 - Fees from the date of purchase or date of first retail sale by a dealer, without regard to the status of the nonresident registration **or** the date of repossession.

7.130 Interstate Registration (VC §4303)

Interstate registration allows a vehicle owner to register a vehicle in California and at the same time retain valid out-of-state registration. It **does not** prevent any vehicle from being registered in California on a nontransferable (goldenrod) basis.

Generally, interstate registration is obtained for nonresident commercial vehicles operating in more than one state without reciprocity. However, automobiles may also be registered on an interstate basis. California residents may obtain interstate registration for vehicles registered in another state; but should not be encouraged to pay fees in both states when he/she is exempt from registering in the other state.

Registration Requirements—The requirements are:

- An Application for Title or Registration (REG 343) completed by the applicant.
- A vehicle verification.
- Evidence of nonresident registration. Acceptable evidence is a current out-of-state registration card **or** a letter, FAX, or wire addressed to the department from the nonresident registration jurisdiction showing evidence of current registration. (The applicant must cover the expense of this verification.)
- A weight certificate, if a commercial vehicle.
- A smog certification, if appropriate.
- Full-year registration fees and any California use tax due.

Interstate registration is renewed in the same manner as other California registration. The nonresident registration **is not** inspected by the department for renewals.

7.130 Interstate Registration, continued

International Traffic Vehicles—There are additional clearance requirements for international traffic vehicles. These are **heavy duty** commercial vehicles which are allowed to import and/or pick up merchandise and leave as expeditiously as possible. They enter California for the sole purpose of doing business and do not intend to remain here.

NOTE: Light weight pickup trucks and/or automobiles **are not** included in this classification. These vehicles are subject to normal registration requirements.

The owner/driver of an international traffic vehicle **must** present proof of insurance from a company authorized to do business in California and obtain interstate registration.

Vehicles Base-Plated in Mexico or Newfoundland—Proof of insurance **must be** verified for commercial vehicles weighing more than 7,000 pounds unladen which are base-plated in Mexico or Newfoundland.

Minimum insurance coverage for these vehicles is:

- \$250,000 public liability per person
- \$500,000 public liability per accident
- \$100,000 property damage
- \$600,000 combined total coverage

Additional coverage **is required** for commercial vehicles hauling petroleum or hazardous waste. (VC §16500.5 and *Public Utilities Code* §3631)

7.135 Conversion of Interstate to Regular Registration

Conversion of interstate registration to regular registration is the same as conversion of goldenrod registration, except that the current nonresident registration and foreign plates **must be** surrendered.

